



# USS Florida (SSGN 728)

Commander Naval Submarine Forces  
Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet

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## CDR Gregory M. Ott Commanding Officer

A native of New Jersey, Commander Ott graduated in 1985 from Lehigh University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He was commissioned at Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island.

After completion of initial nuclear power and submarine training, Commander Ott reported to USS Francis Scott Key (SSBN 657)(BLUE) in Charleston, South Carolina, where he served as Chemistry and Radiological Controls Assistant, Damage Control Assistant, and Main Propulsion Assistant. While on Key, he completed four strategic deterrent patrols. Following his division officer tour, Commander Ott served first as Nuclear Programs Officer at Navy Recruiting Area Four, Columbus, Ohio and then as an instructor and Director, Reactor Plant Technology Division at Naval Nuclear Power School, Orlando, Florida.

Commander Ott completed the Submarine Officer's Advanced Course and reported in 1993 to USS Providence (SSN 719), homeported in Groton, Connecticut. He served first as Navigation and Operations Officer and then as Engineer Officer. Commander Ott then transferred to The United States Naval Academy where he served as a company officer and Ethics Advisor to the Commandant.

In 1999, Commander Ott reported to USS Charlotte (SSN 766), in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, as Executive Officer. While he was onboard Charlotte, the ship completed a Western Pacific deployment, earning the Submarine Squadron One Battle Efficiency Award. Following his tour on Charlotte, he reported to Commander, United States Pacific Fleet as Operations and Plans Officer for the Command and Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence Systems Directorate.

Commander Ott holds a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Masters in Business Administration. His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (with one gold star), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (with three gold stars) and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (with three gold stars).

## *Fortes Fortuna Adivat* “Fortune Favors the Bold”



USS Florida (SSGN 728) is the first submarine and the sixth US vessel to bear the name of the 27th state.

The first Florida was a survey sloop that served off the southern coast of Florida from 1824 to 1831.

The next Florida was a side-wheel steamer commissioned from 1861 to 1867. She fought in the Civil War as a blockade ship in the South Atlantic.

The third Florida was a frigate originally called Wampanoag until renamed Florida in 1869. She was sold in 1885.

The fourth, a 252-foot monitor (# 9), served from 1901 to 1922 as a training vessel and submarine tender.

The fifth and most recent USS Florida (BB 30) was a battleship commissioned in 1911. She served as part of Battleship Division 9 in World War I, performing convoy duty for the British Grand Fleet. After the war, she served as a training vessel until she was scrapped under the terms of the London Naval Treaty of 1930.

## Facts and Figures

- **Builders:** General Dynamics Electric Boat Division
- **Powerplant:** One nuclear reactor, one shaft
- **Length:** 560 feet (170.69 meters)
- **Beam:** 42 feet (10.06 meters)
- **Displacement:** Approx. 18,750 tons submerged
- **Speed:** 20+ knots (23+ miles per hour; 36,8+ KPH)
- **Crew:** 15 officers, 140 enlisted
- **Armament:** 154 Tomahawk cruise missiles, VLS tubes (719 and later), MK48 torpedoes, four torpedo tubes